GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:165
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2000
NEW CURRICULUM IN SCHOOLS
PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote moral and cultural values in education;

(b) whether the National Council for Educational Researchand Training has submitted a draft for approval to the Government and is also working out a new curriculum for the schools in the country to review the existing school curriculum, and also to contain certain common core components with particular emphasis on the value and moral education;

(c) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(d)the reaction of Government thereon and the time by which it is likely to be approved?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN ANSWER TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 165 ASKED BY SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL, M.P. TO BE AMSWERED ON 07.03.2000 REGARDING NEW CURRICULUM IN SCHOOLS.

Yes, Sir. Education in human values has been an important component of school education and it will continue to be so.

Following the National Policyon Education (NPE) 1986,the National Council of EducationalResearch and Training (NCERT) had brought out the "National Curriculum for Elementary and Secondary Education− A Framework". Characterbuilding and inculcation of values, preservation of cultural heritage and strengthening of National identity and unity were incorporated under the areas of `curricular concerns'. The National Policyon Education was updated in 1992, and the Programme of Action, 1992 required the NCERT to modify its curriculum framework.As a part of the 9th Plan the NCERT had been given thetask of revising the curriculum of school education. Following these policy directives and as a part of an ongoing process, the NCERThas recently prepared a "Discussion Document"on the "National Curriculum Framework for School Education" and released it in January, 2000 for public debate.

The "Discussion Document" has re-emphasised the strengthening of Value Education at school level. In this context, the Parliamentary Standing Committeeconstituted for value based education has also suggested in its report that truth, righteousness, peace, love and non-violence be incorporated as the foundation stone for value-based education in educational programmes.

The document is being discussed and debated at national and state levels. The NCERTis an autonomous academic body. After receiving feedback on the "Discussion Document", NCERT will releasethe Curriculum Frameworkas a model, to all State Governments. Governmentis in favour of further strengthening value − based education in school system. After NCERT submitsits final recommendations, Government will give its approval.